

Submission on the draft MWRRIP

From: Tom Joseph

Company or Organisation: Mernda and Doreen Multicultural Association Inc.

I would like to make the following submission in relation to the Draft Metropolitan Waste and Resource Recovery Implementation Plan, section 8.3, Metropolitan review of waste and resource recovery hubs on page 61 and Table 13 on page 66 in relation to Hanson Landfill Wollert.

I submit that the Hanson Landfill Wollert should not be considered for any further expansion and the operations at the site should be curtailed and if possible closed down in the near future for the following reasons:

1. Environmental concerns: The Hanson Wollert Landfill sits on a very environmentally sensitive area abutting the Darebin Creek, we have all seen the recent catastrophe involving one of the largest Australian company, BHP in Brazil where their Dam burst and left a trail of environmental destruction. While one might argue that reasonable precautions are taken to prevent ground and surface water contamination from the landfill, the very fact that the landfill sits on an ecologically sensitive area no further expansion should be allowed.
2. The Bridge Inn road at the present is struggling to cope with the daily traffic and because the Bridge Inn road has no foot path it is forcing the children from the two schools on the Bridge Inn road to walk on the road which is a serious safety issue. Any expansion of the Hanson Wollert Landfill will bring in 1000s of additional commercial vehicles on the Bridge Inn road which will not only put the lives of our Children at further risk it will also worsen an already bad traffic situation on the Bridge Inn road.
3. The expansion of the Hanson Wollert Landfill will attract scavenger birds to the site with the associated risk of spreading of diseases in the population nearby.
4. Any further expansion of the Hanson Wollert Landfill will worsen the already bad situation of foul smell from the landfill in Mernda and Wollert which comes with the wind change.
5. The expansion of the Tip can potentially have huge impact on the property prices in Wollert and Mernda making us resident's homes worthless.

Considering the above factors I submit that the Hanson Wollert Tip should not be considered for any further expansion.